

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-13 and 28-30 were previously cancelled, claims 14-22 and 32 are now being cancelled, claims 23, 25-27, 31, 33 and 34 have been amended, and claims 36-39 have now been added. Applicants request the cancellation of claims 14-22 and 32 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 23-27, 31, and 33-39 remain pending in this application.

In the Office action dated October 27, 2004, claims 23-24, 31 and 33-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The changes suggested by the Examiner have now either been implemented in the amended claims, or the indefinite language removed from the claims. Claims 22, 25, 31 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kemming (U.S. 4,921,152). Claims 22, 25, 27, 31 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bonstead (U.S. 4,770,330). Additionally, the Examiner objected to claim 26 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 23-24 and 33-35 were also said to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

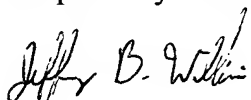
The Applicant has now amended claim 23 to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, and including the limitations of base claim 22. Claim 26 has also been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of base claim 22. Furthermore, claim 33 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, and including the limitations of base claim 22 as well as intervening claim 32. Therefore, claims 23, 26 and 33 are now believed to be allowable. Claims 24, 25, 27, 31 and 35 depended either directly or indirectly from claim 23,

and claims 34 and 36-39 depended either directly or indirectly from claim 33. As claims 23 and 33 are now believed to be allowable for the reasons stated above, claims 24, 25, 27, 31 and 34-39 are also asserted to be allowable. Furthermore, with respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), claims 22 and 32 have now been cancelled, and claims 25, 27 and 31 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 23. Therefore, the rejections of claims 22, 25, 27, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kemming and/or Bonstead are considered moot.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that the Applicant's invention as defined by claims 23-27, 31, and 33-39 is patentable over the references of record. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey B. Williams
Reg. No. 43,269

Shook Hardy & Bacon
2555 Grand Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64108
(816) 474-6550
(816) 421-5547 – fax

Customer No. 05251